

From: Floyd G. Bradley
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Sat, Feb 15, 2003 12:28 PM
Subject: Comments to the Commissioner

Floyd G. Bradley (floyd@cyberback.com) writes:

Floyd G. Bradley
8 Brantley Woods Drive
Conway, AR 72032
501-470-1416

Saturday, February 15, 2003

Federal Communications Commission

Michael K. Powell
Chairman

Kathleen Q. Abernathy
Commissioner

Michael J. Copps
Commissioner

Kevin J. Martin
Commissioner

Jonathan S. Adelstein
Commissioner

RE: Review of the Section 251 Unbundling Obligations of Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers (CC Docket No. 01-338).

Gentlemen and Gentle Lady:

I am writing to you concerning your upcoming meeting concerning the future of the Unbundled Network Element-Platform, commonly known as UNE-P.

I applaud Chairman Powells market based philosophy regarding the telecommunication industry. Current policy can be correctly referred to a corporate welfare for the so-called CLECs. If any other industry was required to operate under similar conditions there would be an outcry from the rooftops citing unreasonable governmental interference.

Our nations success was built upon the free market capitalism and the entrepreneurial spirit of people who were willing to risk their money and time in order to be successful.

Bell South, SBC and Verizon are being forced to operate under regulations, which flies in the face of traditional capitalism and entrepreneurship.

These regulations are not only welfare for the likes of Sprint, AT&T, World-Com and Aldephia, all of which have had either dismal leadership or wrought with abysmal corporate greed, corruption and/or criminal

activity. The existing regulations have added millions and millions of dollars in expenses to Bell South, SBC and Verizon in litigation and give away programs to keep their customers in the fold. The regulations have forced the Big Three, in many ways to compete against themselves.

But, current policy is impacting rural customers across this nation that have no chance of ever entering the information super highway via broadband technology because it is not cost effective for the ILECs to build out those areas.

This policy also affects millions of customers being held hostage by an unregulated CATV industry because it is not profitable for the ILECs to spend billions of dollars on a network that they will have to lease to CLECs at a loss.

The forced breakup of the AT&T monopoly in 1984 was perhaps the most important decision ever made. Important because in 1983 AT&T decided what was best for its customers. The standard fare during those days was a black rotary dial telephone with a three foot cord. If by chance you needed another phone in the house you paid for that extension. Colors could be added at additional cost.

In those days rural services were provided largely via eight and four party lines. The rural customer was forced to pay mileage for excessive distance from the central office.

Phenomenal changes have been made from 1984 until 1996, by fairly regulated industry. However the telecommunications act passed in 1996 instituted a regulatory scheme that could only be deemed laughable if it were not so serious and had not been so damaging to our industry.

Based on the progress from 1984 through 1996 the sky is the limit for the future of telecommunications if and only if the CLECs right to invest and reap the reward is re-instated.

It is difficult enough to look at the stock prices of Bell South, SBC and Verizon three years ago and compare it to todays price, but when one factors in the devastation across the industry it is disastrous.

For example, Lucent once a premier name in equipment manufacturing and service is on the brink of bankruptcy. Alcatel has one of the best broad band platforms on the market today, and they can not sell it because the CLECs can not afford to buy it and sell the services at a loss. Marconi , Fujitsu, Northern Telcom and others find themselves in similar shape.

Corporate spending is essentially zero. This affects the before mentioned vendors, but it also touches car rentals, airlines, hotels, office supplies, building maintenance, fleet services, fuel purchases, house services and employees who find themselves unemployed after 15, 20 or 25 years of faithful service to their company.

Many small contractors with a backhoe and a dump truck have been put out of business because the CLECs have reduced their OSP capital program to a minimum. Many people have been transformed from the tax rolls to the welfare rolls because of this unfair regulations.

You have within your power the ability to help remedy these injustices and undo some of the wrongs inflicted on innocent hard working Americans.

I implore you to support the abolition of the UNE-P concept at your meeting this Thursday. I pray everyday that God will give you guidance and the wisdom to do what is right for the future of our country.

Best regards,

Floyd G. Bradley

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